

1999/F 044 (8577\*38)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: ALEXANDER DYCK *ET AL.* )  
SERIAL NO. TO BE ASSIGNED ) ART UNIT: TO BE ASSIGNED  
FILED: HEREWITH ) EXAMINER: TO BE ASSIGNED  
FOR: SULFONATED AROMATIC POLYMERS, )  
MEMBRANE CONTAINING SAID )  
POLYMERS AND A METHOD FOR THE )  
PRODUCTION AND USE OF THE SAME )

Asst. Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

"EXPRESS MAIL" No. EJ 375994391 US DATE: AUGUST 31, 2001

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to fee calculation and examination please amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 3-18.

Please add the following new claims.

- - 19. The sulfonated aromatic polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein X is -CO-.
20. The sulfonated aromatic polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein Ar<sup>1</sup> and Ar<sup>2</sup> are, independently of one another, phenylene, naphthylene or biphenylene.
21. The sulfonated aromatic polymer as claimed in claim 1, which further comprises the